"ARE YOU BEARING GOOD FRUIT?"

John 15:16 (KJV)

"Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained (assigned) you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you."

Explanation of the Text: In the Bible, the word <u>fruit</u> is often used to describe a person's outward actions that result from the condition of the heart. Jesus, in the previous verses, called His disciples friends because He had disclosed His Father's revelation to them. Jesus then reminds them that contrary to the common practice of disciples picking a teacher, Jesus had chosen them. The purpose of His choosing them was so <u>that they (we) would go out and bring forth fruit, and that our fruit would remain (fruitful)</u>.

- Psalms 1:3
- Jeremiah 17:7, 8

He chose them (*planted seed in them*) for a mission, and His Father would answer their requests in order to accomplish (*produce from that seed*) that mission (*whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you*).

• Colossians 1:10-12

We must remember that **GOOD FRUIT** is the after product of that seed which was planted by God and produced by the Holy Spirit. So the more we allow the Holy Spirit to have free rein in our lives, the more this fruit becomes evident.

- Galatians 5:22, 23
- Ephesians 5:8-10

Jesus reveals to us what we must do to bear good fruit.

• John 15:1-7

Be mindful that others will recognize your tree by the fruit it bears. In other words, people will recognize **COUNTERFEIT FRUIT**.

- Matthew 12:33-35
- Matthew 7:15-21
- James 3:13-18